

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed May 4, 2010, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within two months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

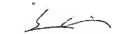
The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on March 18, 2004; October 24, 2007; April 22, 2008; October 24, 2008 and February 2, 2010.

Claims 1-31 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 23-31 (page 3, Paper No. 20100428). In response to the Examiner's request, non-elected claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 15-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 6, 10 and 14 have been amended to correct the claim dependency. Therefore, claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 23-31 remain pending, and the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280.

Respectfully submitted,



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